



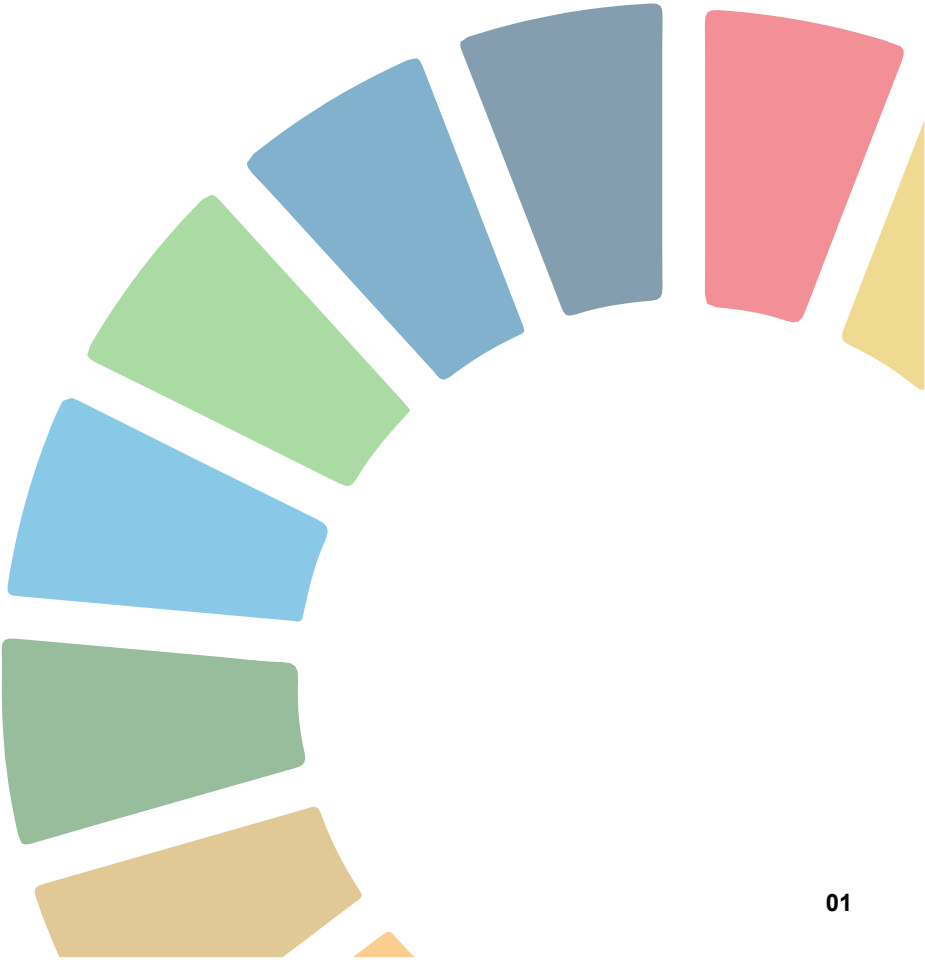
Report on ULAB's Contributions To the Sustainable Development Goals 2022

November 2023



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Message from the Vice-Chancellor of ULAB

From its inception, one of the guiding principles of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) has been sustainable development – the “idea that human societies must live and meet their needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (Brundtland Report 1987). For this reason, the university has established the Center for Sustainable Development, passed policies ensuring student learning of sustainable development, and undertaken various outreach projects to contribute towards the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Hence, when Times Higher Education (THE) initiated the Impact Rankings – the first global attempt to measure university progress around the SDGs – ULAB saw this as an opportunity to highlight the great work that we have done. In this sense, the report on “ULAB’s Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals in 2020” is a testament to our endeavors to fulfill the SDGs.

There are indeed a lot of people to thank for making this report possible. I would like to first express my gratitude to the Board of Trustees for their guidance, particularly on the university’s position vis-à-vis sustainable development. My heartfelt thanks to the various faculty members (led by their deans and department heads) and centers (led by their directors) for their research, teaching, and outreach activities around the SDGs.

I am indebted to Center for Sustainable Development, Director and Professor Samiya Selim, Pro Vice Chancellor Jude William Genilo – for their efforts in showcasing ULAB’s commitment to sustainable development.

This is the third report the university has compiled to show its contribution to the SDGs. We participated for the first time and ranked 156 out of 1100+ universities in SDG 17. We also came in 1st in SDG 11 for Bangladesh. I am sure that this will continue moving forward.

All the best.

Professor Imran Rahman

Vice-Chancellor



Introduction

In 2004, the establishment of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) was driven by a clear vision¹: to become the premier university in Bangladesh and a leader in South Asia. This vision is deeply rooted in the university's mission, which centers on nurturing young minds to reach their full potential through the pursuit of knowledge in a free and creative manner. ULAB is dedicated to shaping responsible and compassionate global citizens among its male and female students.

To achieve these objectives, ULAB offers a mix of traditional and innovative academic and extracurricular programs, exposing students to the finest achievements in arts and sciences worldwide.

The institution upholds a set of core values that serve as the foundation of its culture and behavior expectations. These values encompass a passion for lifelong learning, the practice of integrity and leadership, the encouragement of innovation, the promotion of tolerance, and the relentless pursuit of excellence.

Moreover, ULAB is unwavering in its commitment to providing quality education. It actively develops and implements systems to enhance both academic and administrative performance, fostering a culture of quality and embracing best practices. The university maintains strict compliance with all relevant statutory and regulatory requirements.

Sustainable Development and ULAB

While placing a strong emphasis on delivering quality education, the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) has consistently upheld 'Sustainable Development' as one of its six fundamental principles since its establishment. This commitment is encapsulated in the principle of "Employing sustainable practices and respect for human rights, to become responsible leaders of the future." ULAB's other five guiding principles encompass Liberal Arts, Progressive Education, Active Teaching and Learning, Research, and Engaged Citizenship.

The ULAB's Strategic Plan for 2017–2023² elaborates on its pursuit of sustainability. This includes seeking international accreditation for its sustainability programs, which integrate sustainable development into all aspects of teaching, learning, research, and administrative practices. Additionally, the university aims to create a state-of-the-art green and sustainable campus that incorporates the latest environmental, communication, and educational technologies through the implementation of the "Green Plan" and "Sustainability Plan."

Established in 2006, the Center for Sustainable Development (CSD)³ at ULAB is its oldest research center and a pioneering institution in Bangladesh dedicated to teaching and researching sustainable development. In addition to contributing to ULAB's core strengths in teaching and research, the CSD actively upholds the university's guiding principle of Sustainable Development. The CSD has a vision for a sustainable future and pursues its mission through research, education, and advocacy, achieving notable progress and impact over the past 15 years.

¹ ULAB – Vision, Mission, Values: <https://ulab.edu.bd/about-us/mission-and-values/>

² ULAB Strategy Plan 2017–2023: <https://ulab.edu.bd/about-us/strategic-plan/>

³ Center for Sustainable Development (CSD): <https://csd.ulab.edu.bd/>

About ULAB's SDG Report 2023

Since the inception of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) in 2015, various sectors, including public, non-governmental, and business entities, have been aligning their endeavors with the SDG framework. This framework comprises 17 goals, 169 targets, and 244 indicators. The Government of Bangladesh, drawing from its past experience with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) from 2000 to 2015, has demonstrated a strong commitment to achieving the SDGs.

In accordance with its core principles, policies, values, and strategies, the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) has been actively contributing to SDG 4 by providing quality education and conducting research at the tertiary level. The Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) at ULAB has directly supported specific SDGs through its SDG Minor, research initiatives, and outreach programs. Likewise, other research centers and departments within ULAB have also been contributing to various SDGs and their associated targets, albeit without a comprehensive compilation of these efforts.

In 2023, ULAB initiated an effort for the third time to comprehensively document its collective contributions to all 17 SDGs based on activities conducted throughout the year. This endeavor involved extensive consultations among ULAB faculty, department heads, research center directors, and administrative staff, guided by the senior management, including the Academic Council, Syndicate, and Board of Trustees. A strategic plan was developed to execute this internal assessment, and this report is the result of that pioneering collaborative effort.

In the subsequent sections of this report, you will find concise descriptions of both on-campus and off-campus activities carried out by teachers, students, research centers, and faculty members in the context of each of the 17 SDGs. These activities encompassed a wide range of initiatives, such as organizing seminars, workshops, and international conferences, engaging in collaborative research partnerships with national and international institutions through Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs), presenting and publishing research findings in a variety of outlets, including Scopus-indexed journals, representing Bangladesh at international forums, and offering specialized courses to a diverse audience.

ULAB is committed to publishing the SDG Report on an annual basis to share its ongoing contributions to global efforts aimed at achieving the SDGs.

Abbreviations

BBA	Department of Business Administration of ULAB
CAS	Center for Archaeological Society of ULAB
CAT	Center for Advanced Theory of ULAB
CES	Center for Enterprise and Society of ULAB
CETL	Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning of ULAB
CHPD	Center for Health, Population and Development
CLS	Center for Language Studies of ULAB
CSD	Center for Sustainable Development of ULAB
CSE	Department of Computer Science and Engineering of ULAB
CQS	Center for Critical and Qualitative Studies
DEH	Department of English and Humanities of ULAB
EEE	Electrical and Electronic Engineering of ULAB
EMBA	Executive Master of Business Administration of ULAB
ETE	Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering of ULAB
GED	Department of General Education of ULAB
HE	Higher Education
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSJ	Department of Media Studies and Journalism of ULAB
SD	Sustainable Development
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals



Social Welfare Club at ULAB organizes a Winter Clothing Distribution Program

The ULAB Social Welfare Club organized and successfully executed a Winter Clothing Distribution Program for people in need. This initiative was aimed to provide essential winter clothing to underprivileged individuals in Dhaka. By collecting money and goods for those in need, the club sought to alleviate the immediate challenges faced by vulnerable populations during the winter season. The action was taken to improve the quality of life for individuals struggling with poverty.

More insights can be found [here](#).



Social Welfare Club organizes charity program to aid families struggling during the Eid holidays

The ULAB Social Welfare Club's successful organization of the "Eid Gift Pack Distribution" on April 15, 2023, with the aim of assisting families struggling with increased inflation in the country.

The initiative organized by the club provided Eid gift packs to 50 families, providing essential groceries for Eid day such as lentils, rice, vermicelli, salt, powdered milk packet, wheat, and sugar to bring happiness and joy to underprivileged individuals during a significant cultural and religious celebration. This act of kindness and generosity reflects the club's commitment to alleviating poverty and improving the well-being of those in need.

The event's success was made possible through the collective support and contributions of various stakeholders, including the club's members, volunteers, and the honorable advisor, Ms. Selima Quader Chowdhury. The club believes in leading by example of how a community can come together to make a meaningful difference in the lives of underprivileged families, reinforcing the idea that no one should be left in poverty or deprived of the joys of festive celebrations.

More insights to this initiative can be found [here](#).





CSD creates learning Outside the Classroom: Organic Farming Field Lessons

Taking classroom learning outside can help enrich students' educational experience by showing them real-life applications of theories that they are learning at the institution. Considering this the Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) has designed the course Organic Farming with practical field lessons focusing on experiential learning on sustainable agriculture. The course covers subjects such as soil management, crop and seed selection, specialty crops, soil building and fertility, composting, seed starting, plant growth measurements, pest management, data collection, and certification of organic farming. Students gain hands-on learning experience about growing food organically, and acquire the knowledge necessary to develop and manage effective, safe and sustainable food production in a changing climate.

Learning Outside the Classroom: Organic Farming Field Lessons





EEE conducted a study on Quality Assessment of Respiratory Sounds Extracted from Self-Assembled Digital Stethoscopes

ABM Sayeed Ud Doulah, Mirza Rasheduzzaman, and Sowrav Chowdhury from the Department of EEE at ULAB conducted a study on the quality assessment of respiratory sounds using three inexpensive digital stethoscopes. The objective was to evaluate and compare the performance of these stethoscopes with their traditional and expensive counterparts, in terms of their ability to provide reliable data for machine learning models.

In this study, the researchers developed three inexpensive digital stethoscopes and compared the performance with respect to six time and frequency domain features. The quality of extracted features was examined by Pearson's linear correlation coefficients. The results suggested that one of the low cost stethoscopes exhibited 84% (5 out of 6 features) highly correlated features. The results emphasize the importance of carefully selecting low-cost stethoscopes, considering their potential use in machine learning algorithms for early detection of respiratory disorders.

[Quality Assessment of Respiratory Sounds Extracted from Self-Assembled Digital Stethoscopes](#)

CSD organized a session on Mental Health at the 5th CSD Annual Conference titled: Climate Change, Mental Health, and Well-Being

Climate change is increasingly having stronger and longer-lasting impacts on people, which can directly and indirectly affect their mental health and psychosocial well-being. There are several environmental, social, and economic determinants of mental health, which are the negative effects of climate change. Additionally, certain groups are disproportionately at risk from climate change-related hazards, including people with pre-existing mental health conditions. Given this scenario, an ongoing study with SAJIDA Foundation and the University of Heidelberg, Germany, was highlighted during a session titled "Climate Change, Mental Health and Well-being" at the 5th CSD Annual Conference 2022.

This Session brought together practitioners and academics working on climate change, mental health, and well-being, especially to address the research gaps within these areas, identify networks and possible collaboration, and discuss tools around community-based mental health programs relevant to Bangladesh. One of the key outcomes of the session is the recognition of the need to prioritize mental health as an agenda in natural disaster rehabilitation.

This session invited Dr. Saleemul Huq, Director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) and Rubina Jahan, Head of Clinical Services of the Mental Health Program at SAJIDA Foundation as discussants. Mahmuda Mity from SAJIDA Foundation, Dr. M Tasdik Hasan from Monash University, Kyra Lilier from University of Heidelberg, and Kate Baernighausen from University of Heidelberg were also present during the session as panelists.





Climate Change, Mental Health and Well-being” at the 5th CSD Annual Conference 2022

CQS organized a Thinking Healthy Program: Scaling-up Care for Perinatal Depression through Technological Enhancements

University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB), along with three fellow institutes from Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka, has forged a partnership with the University of Liverpool, UK. It has conducted a four-year collaborative research project titled ENHANCE, funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), UK. The project, led by Prof Atif Rahman and Prof Omar Rahman, sponsors a study on perinatal depression in slums, a major unaddressed public health concern. This study has explored the facilitators, barriers, and requirements, and thus, paved the way for delivering through mobile phones, a community-based psychological intervention system for maternal mental health in urban slums, as a substitute to the acute shortage of mental health professionals in the country. Under this project, a ULAB faculty, Mahmudun Nabi, will be conferred a PhD from the University of Liverpool, while Prof Sumon Rahman will work as a Senior Research Fellow. This academic collaboration has added a new dimension to tertiary education and research in Bangladesh.



Thinking Healthy Program: Scaling-up Care for Perinatal Depression through Technological Enhancements



CES organized a Webinar on ‘Massive Open Online Courses: Perspectives From India And Bangladesh’

The event, titled "Massive Open Online Courses: Perspectives from India and Bangladesh," was organized by CES and held on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, from 4 pm to 5 pm. It was conceptualized to address the challenges and possibilities within the MOOC market in Bangladesh and India, with a focus on promoting quality education in alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 4. Imran Newaz Khurshid, Project Manager at CES, ULAB, served as the event

moderator. The panel featured Professor Imran Rahman, Vice Chancellor of ULAB; Associate Professor and Director of CES at ULAB, Sajid Amit; Fahmida Rahman, Lecturer and Program Coordinator at the School of General Education, Brac University, and Simi Mehta, CEO and Editorial Director of the Impact and Policy Research Institute (IMPRI). The event also contributed to SDG 5 and SDG 10 by promoting diversity, tolerance, gender equality, and reduced inequalities.

[Massive Open Online Courses: Perspectives From India And Bangladesh](#)

The Social Media Link Can Be Found [Here](#)



EEE organizes a Seminar on Higher Study Abroad and Job Opportunities in the USA

The Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB), in collaboration with the University of Liberal Arts Research and Extension Center (UERC), successfully organized a seminar titled "Higher Study Abroad and Job Opportunities in the USA" on December 7, 2023. The event took place at 4:10 PM in PD 209. The seminar featured Mr. Siam Hossain as the resource person, who currently holds the positions of Founder and President of HigherStudyAbroad and Founder CEO of Algorizin Inc. Mr. Hossain is dedicated to creating comprehensive solutions to assist immigrants in migrating to the United States for higher education and employment through his two companies.

The seminar covered a wide range of informative agendas, including an overview of the various pathways available for individuals in Bangladesh to migrate to the United States. It addressed the potential pitfalls of funded research while pursuing postgraduate studies and provided insights on how to navigate and avoid them. The event also discussed the process of selecting the right career path, changing majors, and gaining a comprehensive understanding of the job sector and emerging fields in the USA, particularly in the context of the post-Covid era. Attendees gained valuable insights into the current job market situation for international students and learned about building impressive resumes and portfolios. Furthermore, the seminar offered guidance on leveraging LinkedIn for professional networking and highlighted different pathways for obtaining a 'Green Card' and permanent residency. It also explored entrepreneurship opportunities for immigrants looking to establish themselves in the United States.

[Seminar on Higher Study Abroad and Job Opportunities in the USA](#)

The Social Media Link Can Be Found [Here](#)



EEE organizes a Workshop on Fundamentals of MATLAB

The Department of EEE at ULAB organized a successful workshop on "Fundamentals of MATLAB" at the ULAB permanent campus on December 4, 2022. The event was powered by ULAB Electronics and Robotics Club (UERC) and the ULAB IEEE Robotics and Automation Society (RAS). Md. Ariful Islam Rafi, a final year student of EEE, ULAB, was the facilitator of the workshop. He provided an exciting presentation on the introductory parts of MATLAB. With tremendous enthusiasm, many students attended the session and learned the basic and crucial skills on MATLAB.



MATLAB workshop organized by EEE Department

The social media link for this workshop is [here](#)

EEE hosts a Project Showcasing and EEE Poster Presentation" Spring - 2022

On May 18, 2022, the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) at ULAB (University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh) hosted two remarkable events, namely "EEE Project Showcasing" and "EEE Poster Presentation." These programs saw enthusiastic participation from students within the School of Science and Engineering. The festivities commenced at 11 a.m. and continued until 5 p.m. A prize-giving ceremony was conducted to honor the winners of the poster presentation and project showcasing. Each participant was awarded a certificate of participation for attending these events. The organization of these programs was carried out by the ULAB Electronics and Robotics Club (UERC) in collaboration with the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society (RAS). The activities and engagement of the students showcased not only their academic prowess but also their dedication to innovation and knowledge sharing within the EEE community at ULAB.



EEE Project Showcasing and Poster Presentation Spring 2022

The social media link for this workshop is [here](#)

EEE organizes a Workshop on “Academic Writing Strategy for Impacted Journal”

The Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, ULAB, organized a workshop for the students and teachers on “Academic Writing Strategy for Impacted Journal”. The session was conducted by Dr. Mamun Bin Ibne Reaz, who is affiliated with the Department of Electrical, Electronic and Systems Engineering, Universiti Kebangsaan, Malaysia. The resource person has more than 400 Journal publications with

more than 9000 citations. The workshop was organized at the permanent campus of ULAB. The Head of the departments of EEE, CSE, and GED graced the session. Respected faculties and interested students from other departments also joined the workshop maintaining the protocols for social distancing.



Workshop on Academic Journal Writing

The social media link for this workshop is [here](#)

CSD organizes a Virtual Classroom event: “Findings From The Field”

As a core component of the Power and Politics in Land Reform Project (PPLA), supported by Erasmus Plus, the Dublin City University (DCU), the Wageningen University & Research (WUR), and the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) set out an ambitious plan to bring “findings from the field” into university classrooms in the Global North. Personnel at the ULAB–CSD incorporated the views and perspectives of rarely heard voices from the field, including our research team and other local stakeholders into one class respectively in six academic courses conducted at the DCU and the WUR.



This included both “European Union Studies” and “International Development curricula” to facilitate the cross fertilization aim of the overall project. Six virtual classroom sessions were conducted, with monitoring and evaluation carried out among instructors and students

The social media link for this workshop is [here](#)

CSD organizes a Nature-based Park Play Day

Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) organized a Park Play Day with children at the Justice Shahabuddin Park, Dhaka on September 24, 2022. The aim of this play session was to increase environmental awareness among children through nature-based play and other creative activities. The nature-based play sessions, organized by Mekateam, allowed the children to explore the park and identify naturalelements.



They also made crafts using waste paper and different types of puzzles. CSD believes that creative activities not only focus our mind on recycling, but also help reduce our stress level. The Park Play Day was a success, in terms of how much fun the children had. The organizers and the parents had an amazing time enjoying the outdoors with the children as well

The social media link for this workshop is [here](#)

CQS organizes a workshop on Thinking Qualitatively: Workshop on Fundamentals of Ethnography & Qualitative Research

The Center for Critical and Qualitative Studies, ULAB, organized a two days-long workshop titled “Thinking Qualitatively: Workshop on Fundamentals of Ethnography and Qualitative Research”. It was facilitated by Dr. Shahaduz Zaman, Professor in Medical Anthropology and Global Health (Global Health and Infection), University of Sussex, UK, in September 2022. Professor Zaman has vast experience in conducting qualitative and ethnographic research in various settings including South Asia, Africa and Mediterranean countries. He has led several qualitative method courses in universities in the global South and North. This course has been designed for researchers and development practitioners working in public sector institutes, NGOs, academia, research institutions, and other civil society organizations that are planning or working on projects involving qualitative, ethnographic, or mixed-method approaches. The honorable Vice-Chancellor of ULAB, Imran Rahman, welcomed the participants with his warm remarks.

[Thinking Qualitatively: Workshop on Fundamentals of Ethnography & Qualitative Research](#)



MSJ organizes an exhibition titled Curriculum Integration Exhibit Fall 2022

The Media Studies and Journalism Department at ULAB presented its Curriculum Integration Exhibit Fall 2022 from December 23, 2022 to December 29, 2022. In Fall 2022, the Exhibit was held online. There have also been a fashion show and film screening held separately from the respective courses, Convergence Communication 1 and Fictional Narratives Production.

The theme for the Fall Semester 2022 was 'Equal Opportunities in Science'. This term the Curriculum Integration was partnered with Goethe Institut and Science Film Festival 2022.

[MSJ Curriculum Integration Exhibit Fall 2022](#)



MSJ organizes a seminar by Bangladesh Media Landscape and Gender Equality

A Seminar on Bangladesh Media Landscape and Gender Equality, Organized by Embassy of Sweden, Embassy of the Netherlands, MRDI and Department of Media Studies and Journalism, ULAB, was held on November 29, 2022 at the ULAB Auditorium. The seminar was featured under the annual international campaign '16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence'. Alexandra Berg von Linde, Ambassador of Sweden to Bangladesh, and Anne van Leeuwen, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Bangladesh were present at the event. Twelve special guests from civil society, academia, and media organizations discussed the issue in three group sessions.

[MSJ Seminar organized by Department of Media Studies & Journalism](#)



MSJ organizes a roundtable discussion titled "Film Showing and Roundtable Discussion on Community Digital Storytelling and Delta Features in Bangladesh"

The Department of Media Studies and Journalism organized "Film Showing and Roundtable Discussion on Community Digital Storytelling and Delta Features in Bangladesh" on November 12, 2022 at the Auditorium, Research Building, ULAB.



The roundtable was moderated by Dr. Angelos Theocharis, Durham University. The discussants of the roundtable were Prof. Dr. Mesbah Kamal, Department of History, Dhaka University; Riaz Uddin Khan, James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University; Moshin Ul Hakim, Special Correspondent, Jamuna TV; Rezwan Shahriar Sumit, Filmmaker; Syeda Sadia Mehjabin, Department of Media Studies and Journalism, ULAB.

Film Showing and Roundtable Discussion on Community Digital Storytelling and Delta Features in Bangladesh

MSJ organizes a Forum on Masters in Communication

ULAB's Masters in Communication and IAMCR Bangladesh organized a forum titled "Independent Journalism as a Public Good; The Case Study of the United States," on Friday, January 20, 2023, from 3:00 PM at ULAB permanent campus. Distinguished speakers, Dr Elanie Steyn and Armand McCoy from Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication, Oklahoma, United States were present at the forum.

Independent Journalism as a Public Good; The Case Study of the United States



MSJ organizes a Roundtable Discussion on the Impact of Entertainment Industry in Bangladesh

A Roundtable discussion on the impact of the entertainment industry in Bangladesh was organized by ULAB's Department of Media Studies and Journalism on March 19, 2023 at the ULAB Research Building. Distinguished guests from the various aspects of the media were present in the event.

The roundtable brought together leading professionals from different sectors of the entertainment industry, including Corporate and Intellectual Property Lawyer Barrister Hamidul Mishbah; Independent Filmmaker, Proshoon Rahmaan; Ador Rahman from the Content Integration of Chorki, Sohel Ahsan, Entertainment Journalist from The Business Standard; and Researcher and Academician, Abantee Harun. Professor Dr. Jude William R Genilo, Dean at ULAB School of Social Sciences, moderated the session.

Roundtable Discussion by Department of Media Studies and Journalism



DEH organizes a Curriculum Integration Program Spring 2022

On May 19, 2022, the Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) held the final presentation day for the 6th Curriculum Integration (CI) program for Spring 2022. Every semester, students are assigned a theme for the CI program and through different courses, they create projects integrating the theme with their course content. The theme for Spring 2022 was “The Many Faces of Conflict.” The theme encompassed both internal and external conflicts, with potential for conflict resolution. The projects are judged by instructors of non-participating courses, and the winning teams are awarded a cash prize.



[DEH Curriculum Integration Program Spring 2022](#)

DEH organizes a Workshop on Design-Based Research Part II

On May 19, 2022, the Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) arranged a follow-up workshop for faculty members and students on Design-Based Research (DBR). The workshop was facilitated by Mohammed Shams Ud Duha, who is currently pursuing his PhD in Learning Design and Technology at Purdue University, USA. According to Wang and Hannafin (2005, pp. 6–7), DBR is a “systematic but flexible methodology aimed to improve educational practices through iterative analysis, design, development, and implementation, based on collaboration among researchers and practitioners in real-world settings, and leading to contextually-sensitive design principles and theories.” The event made space for educational practitioners and students to collaborate with each other, revise their knowledge of the concept of DBR, and understand its potential in addressing practical issues concerning the academic world.



[DEH Workshop on Design-Based Research Part II](#)

DEH organizes a Students’ Project Exhibition

The Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a Students’ Project Exhibition. The exhibition was held on May 24 and 25, 2022, which displayed various creative works of students. The exhibits included a variety of creative works including poetry, essays, literary analyses and paintings. The participating courses were ENG 1201: Introduction to Poetry and Drama (Section 2) taken by Ms. Nusrat Tajkia; ENG 305: Contemporary World Literature in Translation taught by Ms. Sarah Anjum Bari; ENG 302: The Novel – 1 (Section 3) and ENG 327: Modern Poetry (Sections 1 and 2), courses taken by Ms. Samirah Tabassum respectively. The goal of this exhibition was to showcase the students’ understanding of the course materials through visual representations.



[DEH Students’ Project Exhibition](#)

DEH organizes a Scholars Program Certificate Award Ceremony

On June 7, 2022, a certificate-giving ceremony was organized for the graduating students of the prestigious DEH Scholars Program. One year after the inception of the Scholars Program, it had six graduating Scholar students among the others. The graduating students were Md. Mashiur Rahaman (173), Fairuz Maliha Surma (181), Md. Sahedul Islam Hira (181), Noshin Nisa (181), Sheikh Tasmima Mrenmoi (182), and Nishat Tabassum (183). The Scholars Program is designed to provide a platform for those high-achieving students who strive for academic excellence and are ready to explore extensive educational opportunities not covered by the standard curriculum.

DEH Scholars Program Certificate Award Ceremony



DEH organizes a Graduate Student Seminar

The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh organizes a Graduate Student Seminar every term for the MA in English students to present their papers. The students are nominated by their course instructors from the previous semester. The aim of the seminar is to offer graduate students a platform to showcase their research. The seminar goes beyond academics, allowing participants to present themselves among peers and faculty who can respond appropriately to their work. Students' ideas must be presented concisely, precisely, and effectively. This exercise is useful not just to prepare for conferences but to handle real life situations as well. The seminars were held on September 4 and December 1, 2022.

DEH Graduate Student Seminar





DEH organizes a Curriculum Integration Program Summer 2022

The Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) held the final showcase of the Summer 2022 Curriculum Integration (CI) program on September 8, 2022, in the auditorium of the ULAB Research Building. To assist their students in growth and creativity, the department organizes this event every term with unique themes. The theme of the Summer 2022 CI, "Gender: The Binary and Beyond," was aimed at eliciting projects to increase the students' awareness as well as give them an opportunity to highlight how they could raise awareness.

[DEH Curriculum Integration Program Summer 2023](#)



USDC organizes a seminar titled "Break Free From Hesitation"

The "Break Free from Hesitation" seminar, jointly organized by Chondo in collaboration with ULAB Sustainable Development Club (USDC) and with the generous support of the EMK Center, represented a remarkable success in the context of gender equality, aligning with Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5) which aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

The seminar's focus on personal health matters, which was facilitated through engaging indoor activities and meditation, contributes to gender equality by encouraging individuals, especially women, to prioritize self-care and well-being. It empowers women to break free from hesitation and take charge of their health, aligning with SDG 5's objectives of ensuring women's physical and mental health. "Break Free from Hesitation" seminar, with its emphasis on personal health and well-being, is closely related to SDG 5 by empowering women and promoting their health, ultimately fostering a more equitable and inclusive society.

Information on the session can be found [here](#)



CES organizes a seminar titled "Who is Your Feminism For?"

The workshop and seminar series, "Who is Your Feminism For?" hosted by The Dhaka Apologue in collaboration with the Center for Enterprise and Society (CES) at ULAB and the Diversity Fellowship program, significantly contribute to the promotion of gender equality.

The title itself suggests a critical and thought-provoking approach to feminism. It reflects the awareness that feminism should not be a one-size-fits-all concept and that it must be inclusive and responsive to the diverse needs and perspectives of all individuals, regardless of their gender identity. This approach aligns with the principles of gender equality by recognizing that the fight for gender equity should be all-encompassing and consider the unique experiences and challenges faced by different genders.

Information on the session can be found [here](#)





CSD conducts a needs assessment on WASH in Shibchar Upazila, Madaripur

Center for Sustainable Development (CSD), University of Liberal Arts (ULAB) with the support of The SAJIDA Foundation conducted a needs assessment with the primary objective of determining the current situation of WASH coverage in Shibchar Upazila, Madaripur in May 2022. Given that the area faces challenges when it comes to access to services such as water supply, and basic sanitation facilities, this assessment mainly focused on the residents of the area and identifying their needs.

Through qualitative tools such as Key Informant Interview and Focused Group Discussions with the residents of the area, the study team identified challenges that need to be solved in order to improve the WASH situation.

WASH coverage in Shibchar Upazila, Madaripur





EEE publishes a research article titled “Optimization of a high-performance lead-free cesium-based inorganic perovskite solar cell through numerical approach”

ULAB's Prof. M. Mofazzal Hossain has authored a research article titled "Optimization of a high-performance lead-free cesium-based inorganic perovskite solar cell through a numerical approach," published in the prestigious Q1 Journal, Heliyon. This article centers on the design of an environment-friendly, low-cost solar cell aimed at providing affordable clean energy. The study focuses on an ultra-thin (0.815 μm) lead-free all-inorganic perovskite solar cell structure comprising solid-state layers with the configuration $\text{SnO}_2/\text{ZnOS}/\text{CsGeI}_3/\text{CZTSe}/\text{Au}$. By utilizing the SCAPS-1D simulator, the research optimized this structure, introducing a ZnOS electron transport layer (ETL), exploring various hole transport layer (HTL) materials to enhance power conversion efficiency (PCE). The optimization journey began with fine-tuning the ZnOS buffer layer's thickness, followed by in-depth analyses of HTL and ETL doping concentrations, and absorber layer thickness. The study also delved into investigating permissible defect densities at the ZnOS/CsGeI3 interface and within the absorber layer (CsGeI3). Additionally, it revealed temperature's influence on short circuit current density (J_{sc}) and open-circuit voltage (V_{oc}), demonstrating a 1.43 mA/K increase in J_{sc} and a 2 mV/K decline in V_{oc} as temperature rises. Ultimately, the optimized structure achieved an impressive PCE of 26.893% with outstanding J_{sc} , V_{oc} , and fill factor (FF) values of 28.172 mA cm^{-2} , 1.0834 V, and 88.107%, respectively. These results surpass recent literature findings and provide a valuable reference for the future implementation of cost-effective and efficient all-inorganic perovskite PV cells.

[Optimization of a high-performance lead-free cesium-based inorganic perovskite solar cell through numerical approach](#)

EEE organizes an Industrial visit to Energypac Limited

On August 11, 2022, the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh's (ULAB) Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) organized a successful industrial visit to Energypac Limited, one of Bangladesh's most notable industries in the country's power sector, located in Baruipara, Savar. During the visit, a group of around 50 enthusiastic EEE students were accompanied by faculty members and the department head. Engineers from Energypac Ltd. gave a demonstration of every manufacturing and testing procedure currently taking place in the sector. They also provided the students a tour of the whole facility. Students were introduced to power transformers, instrument transformers, various protection devices (isolators, circuit breakers, switchgear, and so on), and a variety of other substation equipment. We really appreciate Energypac Ltd.'s concerned authorities for their kind hospitality. The knowledge gathered from this practical experience will help them relate their academic education with real life situations. We believe that our visit will serve as a great encouragement to the students and motivate them to utilize their full potential in their future endeavors.

[Industrial visit to Energypac Limited](#)



EEE organizes a seminar on “A Hydrogen-focused Microgrid for Regional and Remote Community”

To familiarize students with the possibilities of integrating renewable energy into existing power grids and provide them with up-to-date information on research opportunities in the field, the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at ULAB organized a seminar. The session was titled "A Hydrogen-focused Microgrid for Regional and Remote Communities" and was conducted by Dr. G. M. Shafiullah, a Professor affiliated with the Discipline of Engineering and Energy at Murdoch University in Perth, Australia. Dr. Shafiullah has authored over 100 published book chapters, journal papers, and conference papers, including publications in IEEE Transactions, Elsevier, and AIP Journals. His research interests encompass power systems, smart grids, renewable energy, enabling technologies, networking, data communication, and computer-aided technology. During the seminar, the speaker delivered an engaging presentation on hydrogen-based storage systems as effective alternatives for microgrids. He also shared valuable insights on the numerous research opportunities within the renewable energy sector. The program took place at ULAB's permanent campus and attracted a significant number of enthusiastic students. In addition to student participation, the seminar was graced by faculty members and the heads of the EEE and CSE departments.

A Hydrogen-focused Microgrid for Regional and Remote Community

The link to the social media post is [here](#)





DEH organizes a student Workshops for Final Semester Students

As part of a series of mandatory term workshops designed specially for students of ENG 413/498/499, the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized four student workshops aimed at developing their knowledge about higher studies and job hunting to contribute towards quality higher education and careers for economic growth.

The first workshop on "Writing SoPs" was held on April 10, 2022. It was conducted by Dr. Sohana Manzoor, who highlighted the standard procedures and techniques for writing an impeccable Statement of Purpose (SoP). The second workshop on "Recommendation Letters: Ground Rules," conducted by Arifa Ghani Rahman, Associate Professor and Head, DEH, was held on April 21, 2022. In this workshop, Ms. Rahman guided students on how to ask for recommendation letters when applying for higher studies or jobs. Ms. Rahman also conducted the third workshop on "Job Hunting and Networking" on April 28, 2022. During this workshop, students learned some strategies that would help them find a suitable job. This workshop was followed by Ms. Nadia Rahman's "Interview Skills" workshop on May 11, 2022, which highlighted the dos and don'ts of interviews. This series of workshops is conducted every term.



DEH organizes a Future Prospects of English Graduates in the Development Sector

The students from the course ENG 511 (English Language Learning & Teaching) in the MA program of the Department of English and Humanities, ULAB, organized a virtual event titled "Future Prospects of English Graduates in the Development Sector" on December 10, 2022, under the supervision of the course instructor, Golam Kader Zilany. The invited facilitator of the event was Ms. Munia Islam Mozumder, a Hubert H. Humphrey fellow at Vanderbilt University for 2022–2023. In the session, Ms. Munia showed the career trajectories of working in the development sector. However, what she emphasized more on was nurturing a passion to dedicate oneself to one's community, and the excitement of becoming reasons for others' betterment. For English graduates, she said, there are plenty of opportunities in this sector to start careers in the development fields as teachers, program officers, material developers, translators, teachers' trainers, and so on.



The press release of Future Prospects of English Graduates in the Development Sector event can be found [here](#).

CES organizes a Symposium on Startup Ecosystem 'Secret Sauce: Traits of Successful Start-up Leaders in Bangladesh'

The CES Symposium, titled "Secret Sauce: Traits of Successful Start-up Leaders in Bangladesh," held on Sunday, April 24, 2022, from 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm, explored the characteristics that successful startup leaders possess in Bangladesh. This event contributed to SDG 8 by emphasizing success traits that can lead to decent work and economic growth, while also aligning with SDG 10, as it promotes the formation of industries, innovation, and quality infrastructure. The symposium featured a working paper presentation by Associate Professor Sajid Amit, Director of CES at ULAB, and Seeam Shahid Noor, an IBM Strategy Consultant. Additionally, expert panelists, including

Rudmeela Nawsheen, Founder and CEO of ConfigVR & ConfigRbot, Maksudul Islam, Director of Foodpanda, Sabrina Imam, EdTech Founder and CEO of Bitsy, and Sylvana Quader Sinha, Founder, Chair, and CEO of Praava Health, shared their insights and experiences, focusing on successful startups in Bangladesh.

The event was broadcast live on the Dhaka Tribune Facebook Page. The event can be accessed [here](#). The press release can be accessed [here](#).



CES Leadership Talk: Career Journey of a Development Practitioner

On Sunday, June 5, 2022, from 3:00 pm to 4:15 pm, the Center for Enterprise and Society (CES) hosted a leadership talk titled "Career Journey of a Development Practitioner" as part of their Spring 2022 series, featuring Mr. Anirban Bhowmik, Regional Director for Central and East Africa at Swisscontact. The live talk, broadcast on the Dhaka Tribune Facebook Page, focused on Mr. Bhowmik's career journey and his role in leading Swisscontact towards resilience in the region. He previously served as the Country Director for Swisscontact Bangladesh and played a key role in designing and managing a large-scale private sector development program for UK Aid in Bangladesh. Anirban Bhowmik's career spans international development work across South and Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe, and South America. The event aligned with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by highlighting the significance of a well-defined career journey in promoting economic growth and quality infrastructure.



The event can be accessed [here](#).

[CES Leadership Talk: Career Journey of a Development Practitioner](#)



CES Symposium on ‘Mitigating the Dollar Crisis: Policy Recommendations for the Near and Long Term’

The CES Symposium on the Global Monetary Market, held on Sunday, September 25, 2022, from 5:00 pm to 6:15 pm, addressed the pressing issue of the dollar crisis in Bangladesh and provided policy recommendations for mitigating future crises. Broadcast live on the Dhaka Tribune Facebook Page at 7:30 pm, the event commenced with a working paper presentation by CES, followed by a panel discussion featuring experts. Vice Chancellor Prof. Imran Rahman of ULAB delivered the opening remarks, and Associate Professor Sajid Amit, Director of CES, ULAB, served as the presenter and moderator. Additionally, Orpita Oysharja, Senior Research Associate cum Lecturer, and Tawhid A. Chowdhury, Research Associate, both from CES, ULAB, presented the working paper. The expert panelists included Asif Khan, CFA, Managing Partner of EDGE Research & Consulting Limited, Sayma Rahman, Founder and CEO of SR Ventures & Consultancy, Md. Nafeez Al Tarik, CFA, FRM, Managing Director at Dhaka Bank Securities Limited, and Sabrina Imam, EdTech Founder and CEO of Bitsy Toys, and Director at Praava Health. The symposium aimed to provide insights into the current dollar crisis and offer recommendations for addressing near and long-term challenges.

The event can be accessed [here](#).

Mitigating the Dollar Crisis: Policy Recommendations for the Near and Long Term

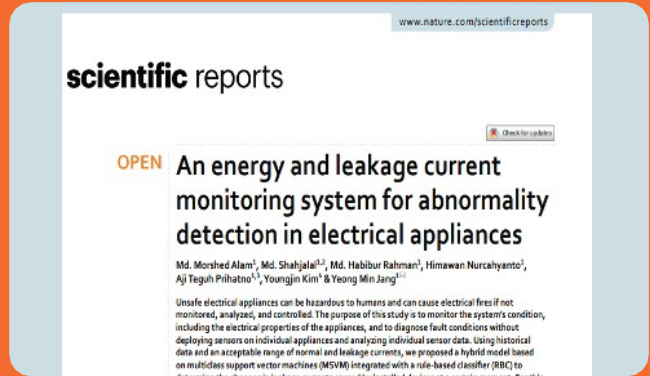
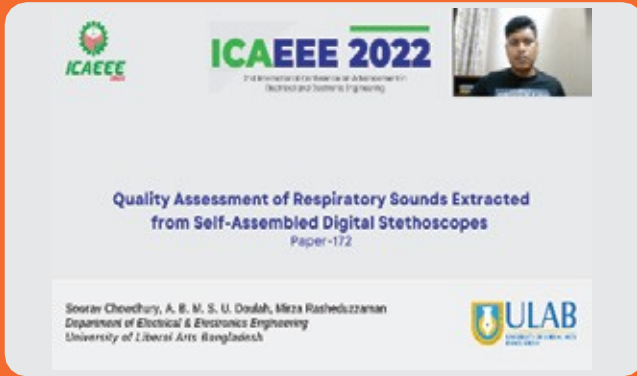
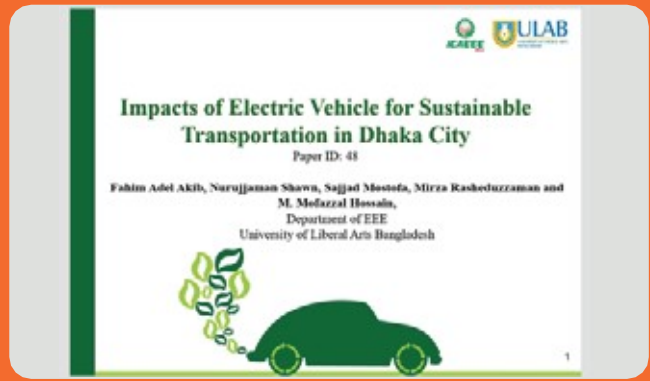
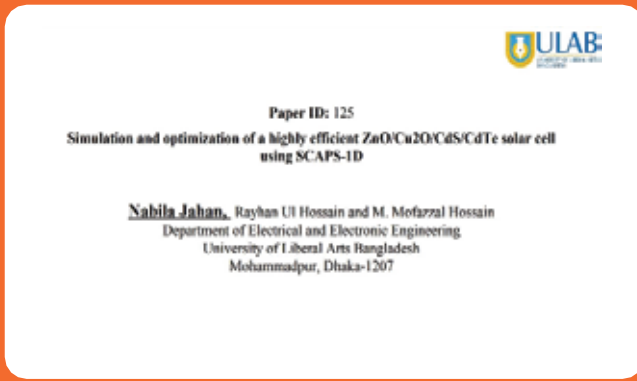


EEE Department Published SCOPUS Indexed Papers in IEEE Xplore and Indexed Journals

From the Department of EEE, ULAB, 4 research articles were published. Among these, the students of the EEE department published 3 SCOPUS indexed papers in IEEE Xplore. These papers were presented in the "2022 International Conference on Advancement in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (ICAEEE)" by Nabila Jahan, Fahim Adel Akib, and Sowrav Chowdhury. Other co-authors are: Rayhan UI Hossain, Sajjad Mostafa, and Nurujjaman Shawn. These researches were supervised by Dr. Mirza Rashuduzzaman, Dr. ABM Sayeed Ud Doulah, and Prof. Mofazzal Hossain. The other paper was published in Scientific Reports co-authored by Dr. Md. Shahjalal.

The titles and links of the papers are given below:

1. Title: ["Simulation and optimization of a highly efficient ZnO/Cu₂O/CdS/CdTe solar cell using SCAPS-1D."](#)
2. Title: ["Impacts of Electric Vehicle for Sustainable Transportation in Dhaka City."](#)
3. Title: ["Quality Assessment of Respiratory Sounds Extracted from Self-Assembled Digital Stethoscopes."](#)
4. Title: ["An energy and leakage current monitoring system for abnormality detection in electrical appliances."](#)
5. Title: ["Optimization of a high-performance lead-free cesium-based inorganic perovskite solar cell through numerical approach."](#)
6. Title: ["Efficiency Enhancement of an Ultra-Thin Eco-Friendly All-Inorganic CsGeI₃ Perovskite Photovoltaic Cell using SCAPS-1D"](#)



EEE organizes a seminar on "Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning: Memory and Interconnect IP Perspective"

Artificial intelligence and machine learning will be game changers in the fourth industrial revolution. To this end, a seminar was organized by the School of Science and Engineering, ULAB, to familiarize students with these prospects, as well as providing them with the up to date knowledge on the global tech industry. The title of the session was "Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning: Memory and Interconnect IP Perspective". It was conducted by Engr. Ahmed S Mazumder, who is affiliated with Silvaco Inc., Portland, Oregon, USA, as the Director of Engineering. He worked as a Senior Engineering Manager at Intel Corporation for 11 years and as a Senior Principal Engineer at Broadcom Corporation for 2 years. He also held respectable positions at IBM, Trident Microsystems, C-Cube Microsystems, and Microchip technology.

The workshop was organized at the permanent campus of ULAB. Students, the Head of the Departments of EEE, CSE along with other faculty members were present in the seminar.

Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning: Memory and Interconnect IP Perspective

The Social Media Link Can Be Found [Here](#)



EEE organizes Seminar on “Can we work with global chip manufacturers sitting at Dhaka?”

Very-large-scale integration (VLSI) is the process of creating an integrated circuit (IC) by combining thousands of transistors into a single chip. This process is utilized globally but what is the situation right now in Bangladesh? To answer this intriguing and yet very important question, a seminar was organized by the Department of EEE, ULAB to familiarize students with these prospects, as well as providing them with the up to date knowledge on the global VLSI industry. This session was powered by the ULAB Electronics and Robotics Club, ULAB. The title of the session was "Can we work with global chip manufacturers sitting at Dhaka?". It was conducted by Md Ismail Hossain, who is affiliated with Neural Semiconductor Limited as the Program Manager.

The workshop was organized in the permanent campus of ULAB. Students along with the alumni from all over joined the session with great enthusiasm. Also, the Head of the department of EEE along with other faculty members were also present in the seminar. The event gave important insights on the VLSI industry sector in Bangladesh. A cordial thanks to all who attended the seminar and made it successful.

The website link of Seminar on Can we work with global chip manufacturers sitting at Dhaka can be found [here](#).

The press release of Seminar on Can we work with global chip manufacturers sitting at Dhaka can be found [here](#).

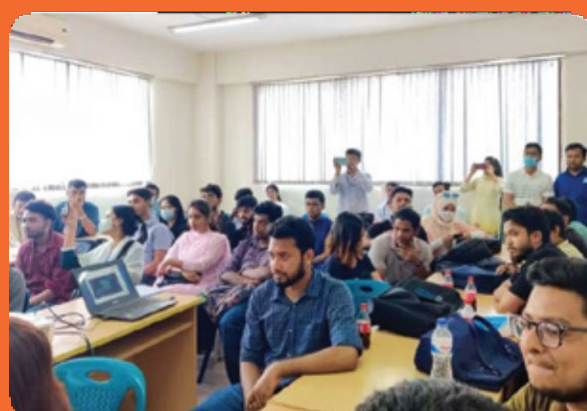


EEE organizes an Industrial Visit to 300 KW solar Photovoltaic (PV) power plant at Kazi Food Industries Limited, Ashulia, Savar

On May 19, 2022, the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) successfully arranged an industry visit to the 300 KW solar Photovoltaic (PV) power plant at Kazi Food Industries Limited, Ashulia, Savar. During the tour, a group of around 50 enthusiastic students from the EEE department were accompanied by the faculty members. Kazi Food Industries engineers gave a brief presentation on how the solar power plant is constructed and maintained. They also gave the students a guided tour of the facility, including a basic demonstration of how the solar plant operates. Other generating methods accessible at the Kazi food industry were also demonstrated to the students. A big gratitude to the concerned authorities at Kazi food for their gracious hospitality. We believe that our visit will serve as a great encouragement to the students and motivate them to utilize their full potential in their future endeavors.

The website link of Industrial Visit to 300 KW solar Photovoltaic (PV) power plant at Kazi Food Industries Limited, Ashulia, Savar event can be found [here](#).

The press release of Industrial Visit to 300 KW solar Photovoltaic (PV) power plant at Kazi Food Industries Limited, Ashulia, Savar event can be found [here](#).



EEE organizes an Industrial Visit to Rampura 230/132 kV Grid Substation of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB)

The Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) successfully organized an industry visit to the Rampura 230/132 kV Grid Substation of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB) on January 13, 2022. A group of 40 enthusiastic students from 3rd and 4th years were accompanied by faculty members and the Head of Department of EEE, Prof. Dr. M. Mofazzal Hossain during the visit. Senior engineers from the PGCB provided a guided tour to expose our students to real-world experience of electric power transmission, distribution, protection, and switchgear systems. Students also had the opportunity to learn about both local and remote control of the substation.

The website link of Industrial Visit to Rampura 230/132 kV Grid Substation of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB) can be found [here](#).

The press release of Industrial Visit to Rampura 230/132 kV Grid Substation of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB) can be found [here](#).





CES Networking Event on ‘Diversity And Tolerance In Bangladesh: Challenges And Opportunities’

On Thursday, June 16, 2022, from 12:00 pm to 2:30 pm, CES organized a networking event titled "Diversity and Tolerance in Bangladesh" to promote and address the challenges and opportunities related to diversity and tolerance in the country. The event aimed to bring together graduates of the ULAB online course on Diversity and Tolerance, providing them with a deeper understanding of these concepts in the context of Bangladesh and the knowledge to practice them independently. Ms. Tasaffy Hossain, Founder and Coordinator of Bonhishikha – Unlearn Gender, and Assistant Professor Abantee Harun, a Faculty Member in the General Education Department at ULAB, served as facilitators. This initiative aligned with several Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 5, and SDG 10, by promoting fostering gender equality and reduced inequalities through the promotion of diversity and tolerance. highlighted the dos and don'ts of interviews. This series of workshops is conducted everyterm.

The press release can be accessed [here](#).
Selected photos can be accessed [here](#).



Breaking Barriers: Embracing Diversity and Countering Misconceptions

The ULAB Kaleidoscope Club's event, "Breaking Barriers: Embracing Diversity and Countering Misconceptions," held on June 8, 2023, at the ULAB Permanent Campus, was a resounding success. The event served as a platform for open and constructive dialogue, fostering an environment that celebrates diversity and combats misconceptions.

Throughout the event, attendees engaged in meaningful discussions, sharing their personal experiences, insights, and innovative solutions. These discussions were pivotal in promoting unity and tolerance within our community. The power of dialogue became evident as barriers were broken, and misconceptions were dispelled, leading to a more inclusive and understanding society. The event's success was a collective effort, with each participant contributing to the transformative nature of the discussions. By sharing their unique perspectives, attendees played a crucial role in building bridges and strengthening our community's commitment to embracing diversity.

More insights can be found [here](#)



DEH received ACU Gender Grant 2022

The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB applied for and received the ACU Gender Grant in 2022. The project, “Women in the Humanities: Equity and Equality in Academia,” aimed to identify the obstacles that women scholars from the humanities face in Bangladesh. It inquired if the over-prioritization of STEM disciplines for women has contributed to the marginalization of humanities research and study. The intention was to pinpoint the discriminatory impact of such emphasis on women scholars from the humanities and social sciences who are seeking funding and institutional support for their work.



The research collaborators were Arifa Ghani Rahman, Prof. Shamsad Mortuza, Mohammad Zaki Rezwan, and Samirah Tabassum.

CSD organized a session at the 5th CSD Annual Conference titled “The Migration-Poverty Nexus: Informal Economy, Mobility of Labor and Overall Well-being of Migrants in the Megalopolises”

This session aims to explore the relationship between increasing rural-urban mobility of labor and acceleration of the market economy and trade liberalization. The migrant workers’ livelihoods was presented by Dr. Nasreen Chowdhury, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, India; Dr. Biswajit Mohanty, Deshbandhu College, University of Delhi, India; Prof. Dr. Taiabur Rahman, Dean, School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB); Prof. Dr. Meherun Ahmed, Dean School of Business and Entrepreneurship, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB); and Dr. Shahana Chowdhury, Center for Sustainable Development, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. Besides workers’ rights, they also highlighted the migration pattern during COVID-19 pandemic in India.

Rural-urban migration is considered to be an important and viable livelihood option or coping strategy to different kinds of income shocks for the poor people. Rural-urban mobility of migrant laborers is an integral part of the development process in the growing economies, it is imperative to have a clear understanding of the causes and consequences of rapid urban growth so that effective policies can be devised to make it efficient, inclusive and sustainable.

The session was chaired by Prof. Dr. Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir, Chairman, Department of Development Studies, University of Dhaka. In this session, four academic research papers were presented.



CES Networking Event on 'Diversity In The Workplace: Why Does It Matter?'

On July 28, 2022, ULAB and NSU jointly organized a networking event titled "Diversity in the Workplace: Why Does It Matter?" which addressed the importance of diversity in professional settings. The event featured Imran Newaz Khurshid and welcomed Parvin S. Huda as a guest. It significantly contributed to SDG 5 and SDG 10 by promoting workplace diversity, which is integral to advancing gender equality and reducing inequalities. Furthermore, this partnership between NSU and ULAB aligned with SDG 17, highlighting the collaborative effort involved in organizing the event.

All photos can be accessed [here](#).



CES Partnership Program: Creating Sustainable Social Change through Diversity and Tolerance

The event titled "Creating Sustainable Social Change through Diversity and Tolerance" was organized in collaboration with AIUB, IUB, NSU, BRACU, and DU, with a focus on highlighting social change, diversity, and tolerance. Held on Thursday, April 21, 2022, from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm, the event played a role in addressing SDG 10 by promoting diversity and tolerance, thereby contributing to reduced inequalities. Additionally, it aligned with SDG 17 as ULAB partnered with AIUB, IUB, NSU, BRACU, and DU. The event provided MOOC participants with opportunities for learning and networking, featuring opening remarks by Professor Shamsad Mortuza, the then Pro-Vice Chancellor of ULAB. Subsequently, Professor Sumon Rahman of ULAB and Professor Tawhida Jahan delivered lectures on "Building a Sustainable Information Ecosystem" and "Diversity and Tolerance in our daily lives," respectively.

The press release can be accessed [here](#). All photos can be accessed [here](#). Selected photos can be accessed [here](#).



CSD organizes a National PPLA Event

CSD, ULAB organized a national event on 'Lessons from a CSD project: EU policy, gendered land rights and the potential for co-produced teaching to decolonise academia' on 25 August 2022 at ULAB. The event included three particular sessions and guests contributed to individual sessions.

The first session started with the discussion of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Bangladesh, by Kirti Nishan Chakma, General Secretary, Moanoghar Residential School, Rangamati. After that, Sornolota Tudu, Coordinator, NGO, Rajshahi talked about the Land ownership, land authority, land registration of Plainland Adivasi.

At the end of the first session, Shaila Shahid, Chief Operating Officer, Disaster Climate Change Support Unit, DPHE talked about the story of the landless people, land issues, gender and Diversity.

The link to the National PPLA event press release can be found [here](#)





EEE organizes a Sajek Tour 2022

The Department of EEE, ULAB organized the Sajek Tour Fall 2022, which took place from November 17-19, much to the delight and excitement of the students. The tour was powered by ULAB Electronics and Robotics Club (UERC). Along with the group of enthusiastic students on the visit were the esteemed EEE faculty members Mr. Ramit Kumar Sadhukhan and Mr. Atik Jawad, who is also the UERC Club Advisor. For both students and faculty members, the tour came to a successful, secure, delightful finish with a multitude of happy moments. The students and the faculty members had the opportunity to experience Sajek in all of their true splendor during the two days and one night-long trip. The spectacular natural beauty of Sajek, introduced with the hilly communities & their culture, the exhilarating local rides Chader Gari across rugged terrain, trekking to Konglok Hill, exploration of Alutilla Cave, the grandeur of Heritage Park, BBQ night, thrilling raffle draws, and exuberant cultural performances were all favorites of the students.



Link [here](#), FB link [here](#)

EEE publishes a paper on Impacts of Electric Vehicle on Sustainable Transportation in Dhaka City

Mirza Rasheduzzaman, Fahim Adel Akib, Nurujaman Shawn, Sajjad Mostafa and M. Mofazzal Hossain from the EEE department at ULAB conducted and published research work on the impacts of electric vehicles on sustainable transportation in Dhaka city.

In this study, the researchers tried to address two issues: the emission of the current fleet of ICEVs and estimated the reduction of emission if electric vehicles were introduced phase by phase in Dhaka city and its impact on the power grid. It is found that the introduction of EVs will significantly reduce carbon dioxide emission in the next ten years. From the analysis, it was found that if Bangladesh could introduce 15% EVs, with the current primary energy mix for electricity generation, about 4.4% of CO₂ emission can be reduced by 2030. It has been observed that a 9.11% reduction in CO₂ emission can be achieved, with the same number of EV integration by 2030, for a primary energy mix with lower emission factors such as 40% nuclear, 50% solar PV and 10% gas. The researchers suggested that to significantly reduce emissions, the electricity necessary to charge BEVs must be primarily sourced from cleaner energy sources.

Link to the study can be found [here](#)

CSD organizes a Greening ULAB event: Training Session by Garbageman

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) envisions a clean, safe, and green campus, where eco-friendly practices and learning are combined to promote sustainable and environment-friendly practices on and off the campus.

As part of the Green Campus Action Plan, ULAB has organized two waste segregation training sessions for ULAB students, faculty, admin staff, and all support and cleaning staff on 10 and 15 of September 2022 at ULAB. The training session covered the need for waste segregation at source (addressing GHG emissions, addressing contamination of water sources, addressing intergenerational equity and the need to move away from the take-make-waste system of resource extraction prevalent in our society. The session also covered the Do's and Don'ts of waste segregation and how ULAB is planning to segregate all its waste at source and bring circularity in waste production at ULAB to make this system of waste production more sustainable therefore, making our cities and communities more sustainable as well.

The link to the event can be found [here](#)



EEE assess the Environmental Consequences of ICEVs and BEVs in Dhaka City via Vehicle Fleet Modeling and Support Vector Regression

Mirza Rasheduzzaman, ABM Sayeed Ud Doulah, Ramit Kumar Sadhukhan and M. Mofazzal Hossain from the EEE department at ULAB conducted and published a research work on assessing the environmental consequences of ICEVs and BEVs in Dhaka city using standardized emission factors, average speed of the vehicle and machine learning algorithm.

The majority of Dhaka's transportation system consists of internal combustion engine vehicles (ICEVs) that use gasoline and compressed natural gas (CNG). Incorporation of battery electric vehicles (BEVs) can help to lessen air pollution caused by the automobiles' exhaust systems. In this research, it has been determined that the adoption of EVs will greatly lower emissions of greenhouse gasses (GHGs) and particulate matter (PM). According to the analysis by the researchers at ULAB, the CO₂, NO_x, and PM_{2.5} emissions can be lowered by 4.76%, 7.93%, and 8.96% respectively by 2050 using the existing primary energy sources for generating electricity, however the SO₂ emissions will rise by 278.34%. In the case of a primary energy mix with reduced emission factors, it has been observed that 8.95%, 9.58%, and 9.12% reductions in CO₂, NO_x, and PM_{2.5} emissions, respectively, can be derived from the same number of EV integration by 2050, whereas SO₂ emission will increase by 57.47%. The researchers suggested that to significantly reduce emissions, the electricity necessary to charge BEVs must be primarily sourced from cleaner energy sources.

Link to the study can be found [here](#)



CSD is working with Greening Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Institutes

Since 2020, CSD-ULAB has been working with the International Labour Organization (ILO) as an implementation partner of the Skills 21 project, a joint initiative of the Government of Bangladesh and ILO, funded by the European Union. Within this project, the CSD team is working with seven Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutes and two Centers for Skills Excellence in Bangladesh to implement green initiatives that promote green growth and sustainable behavior at campus.

In April 2022, CSD-ULAB visited all the seven TVET institutes and two teachers training institutes to monitor the implementation of Greening Action Plan and prepare a documentary on 'Green Transition in TVET Institution'.

Based on the seminar on 8 October 2022 titled Enabling Policy for Sustainable Waste Management organized by the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industries (FBCCI) and Unilever Bangladesh Limited, CSD, ULAB is collaborating to identify pathways for sustainable plastic waste management in Bangladesh as a Knowledge Partner.

Bangladesh's plastic usage has increased due to the country's fast economic expansion and urbanization and having one of the most unprecedented economic growth rates. However, due to poor plastic waste management, plastic waste ends in landfill or as marine litter, while only 37.2% of plastic gets recycled. The white paper provides recommendations and strategies for developing infrastructure, capacity building, and behavioral changes along with institutional, legislative and regulatory measures to ensure that circularity of plastic waste management is achieved in a sustainable manner.

The link to the event can be found [here](#)

CSD organizes a BBA Curriculum Integration Workshop on SDG 12

Despite the disruptions to education caused by the COVID-19, the role of academia in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on University campuses is more important than ever.

Realizing the opportunity, the department of Business Administration of ULAB has organized a 'Curriculum Integration Workshop' on 1 September 2022 at ULAB for its Faculty members to integrate Sustainable Development Goal-12 (sustainable consumption and production) in their curriculum. Ms. Sameera Zaman, Lecturer cum Research Associate and Md. Emon Rahman, Research Associate from CSD, ULAB conducted the session.

The objective of the workshop was to equip participants with thorough understanding of SDG 12 and to guide them in developing a custom strategic plan to accelerate integration of SDG 12 in the curriculum of the courses of business school. Through a mix of theory, good practices, peer learning, and practical application—speakers and participants reviewed their starting points, specific institutional context, the capacity and needs in order to identify an effective way forward.

The link to the event can be found [here](#).





CSD conducts a Moheshkhali Field Research on Climate Change Adaptation of small Scale Fisheries in Bangladesh

Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) at University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh (ULAB) conducted a field study at Moheshkhali upazila, Cox’s Bazar district, Bangladesh to identify the current climate change impact and adaptation practices for small-scale Fishers in Bangladesh.

Throughout the field study, some Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) had been conducted with the local responsible authorities from GOs and NGOs, and the small-scale fishers of the community. The small-scale fishers shared about their life and livelihood impacts during climate change events and how they cope with the situation.



CSD participates in a Roundtable session: Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Human Mobility & Climate Change

The CSD team participated in a roundtable discussion with a set of thematic experts. The session on Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Human Mobility & Climate Change was organized by ICCCAD and Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) on 28 July 2022. The session presented evidence and discussed policy and operational priorities related to displacement, migration and planned relocations in the context of the impacts of climate change in Bangladesh. The interactive session was used to provide feedback to develop a set of operational actions that will be used to support a project on ‘Action and support to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse effect of climate change’



CSD organizes a session on Climate Displacement in South Asia at the 5th CSD Annual Conference

Five panelists from different backgrounds put together a fruitful conversation addressing gendered impacts, loss of lands and homes, and feminization of displacement. The panel discussion invited panelists from South Asia to discuss the state of knowledge on Climate Displacement in South Asia. The panel discussion invited Kazi Amdadul Hoque, President of Friendship (NGO); Professor Mahbuba Nasreen Pro-VC (Academic), Bangladesh Open University. Professor & Co-founder, Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies from the University of Dhaka, Dr. Debojyoti Das representing India from the Department of Politics and International Studies, SOAS, UK and Dr. Srija Basu, representing gender, a social scientist working with gender, climate change and vulnerable communities.

The panel discussion delved into the need for a separate comprehensive set of policies to address climate induced displacement. There is also a need for mainstreaming gender and gender responsive budgeting into National displacement policies to address the needs of women displaced. Additionally, more collaboration between the CSOs and NGOs from neighboring countries in South Asia at regional and international climate talks are needed to take a holistic approach to reduce the scale of displacement and minimize the scale of losses and damages suffered by vulnerable communities. Along with this, it is important to have a progressive action in place to allow people to relocate.



Negotiating Ocean Conflicts among Rivals for Sustainable and Equitable Solutions (NOCRISES): Creative Practices and knowledge generation

The 2nd day of the 5th CSD Annual Conference on Sustainable Development started with the 'Art Exhibition: Alternative Voice for a Displaced Community through Creative Arts'. The exhibition showed the journey of a 7-day long workshop where we explored how ocean conflicts are managed and coped with by different communities. 20 women from Moheshkhali, Coxsbazar participated in the workshop and used embroidery as a tool to help them communicate about their crises, lifestyle, hopes, and dreams. The exhibition continued from 14 October to 21 October at Safiuddin Shilpalay, Dhanmandi, Dhaka.

The link to the event can be found [here](#).



Arts-based workshop focused on displacement and conflicts at Matarbari

As part of a wider global project NOCRISES, Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) of ULAB organized an arts based workshop using story telling, stitching, and drawing from 6 March to 11 March 2022 at Matarbari, Moheshkhali with a group of local displaced women.

The workshop was conducted by Mahenaz Chowdhury. The context of the workshop was the construction of the Matarbari Coal based power plant and the resulting displacement of communities who used to live and work on this land. The intention of the workshop was to upskill the women to help in mitigating their sudden shock-induced hardships.

In groups, the participants produced original designs representing their stories which will be exhibited later in Dhaka so that their stories are communicated with a greater audience. International team members of the NOCRISES project Dr. Marion Glaser and Sara Collberg along with a CSD team led by Dr. Samiya Selim took part in organizing the workshop.

The photos of the workshop can be found in [here](#)



Presentation on Small-scale Fisheries (SDG 14) Arts based workshop focused on displacement and conflicts at Matarbari

At the 4World Small-scale Fisheries Congress Asia-Pacific held in Shizuoka City, Japan, Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah virtually presented the following paper entitled How did COVID-19 pandemic and 65-day fishing ban in Bangladesh help us to understand small-scale marine fishers' resilience? on 10 May 2022. The paper was co-authored by Rumana 20 CSD Newsletter 2022 Sultana, Joy Bhowmik, and Dr. Samiya Selim. This participation was part of the V2V global Partnership of CSD with the University of Waterloo. The 4WSFC Asia-Pacific was co-hosted by Tokai University and TBTI Japan, in partnership with Shizuoka City, TBTI Global with support from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and other key organizations.



CSD publishes the technical report as part of V2V Titled “A Situational Analysis of Small-Scale Fisheries in Bangladesh: From Vulnerability to Viability”

The objective of the V2V Situational Analysis is to build a global perspective on key vulnerabilities and opportunities associated with SSF viability across six countries in Asia (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand) and in six countries in Africa (Ghana, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania). Each country-level situational analysis identifies the key social-ecological drivers of change, emerging issues and challenges confronting SSF, and important policy and governance concerns. The Bangladesh technical report covers the socio ecological challenges of small scale fishers in Bangladesh.

The link to the technical report can be found [here](#).

USDC organizes Art Competition and Poster Exhibition: Life Below Water

On August 20, 2023, the ULAB Sustainable Development Club successfully hosted an Art Competition and Poster Exhibition, which vividly encapsulated the essence of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Life Below Water. This event served as a powerful platform for promoting marine conservation and was met with resounding success.

The artworks presented during the competition breathed life into the cause of marine conservation. The creators' dedication and creativity were on full display, leaving both participants and judges in awe of the profound depths of artistic expression in the service of sustainability. The event was graced by the presence of honorable faculty members and judges who witnessed the remarkable fusion of sustainability and creativity. It served as a testament to the transformative power of art in advocating for important global issues. The imagery and messages conveyed by the artists resonated deeply with the importance of protecting our oceans and marine ecosystems.



More insights into the event can be found [here](#)



CSD organizes training on Capacity building on Nature-based Solutions (SDG 15)

Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah was a resource person at the virtual and in-person training sessions on ‘Disaster Impact Assessment (DIA) Tool and Guideline’ and ‘Risk Informed Development Planning in Bangladesh’, under the National Resilience Programme – Programming Division Part (NRP-PD) organized for the government officials of Bangladesh by Bangladesh Planning Commission and UNDP/UNOPS Bangladesh. In a series of sessions throughout 2022, Dr. Irfanullah trained relevant officials on how Nature-based Solutions (NbS) can contribute to resilient development, with special focus on disaster risk management.

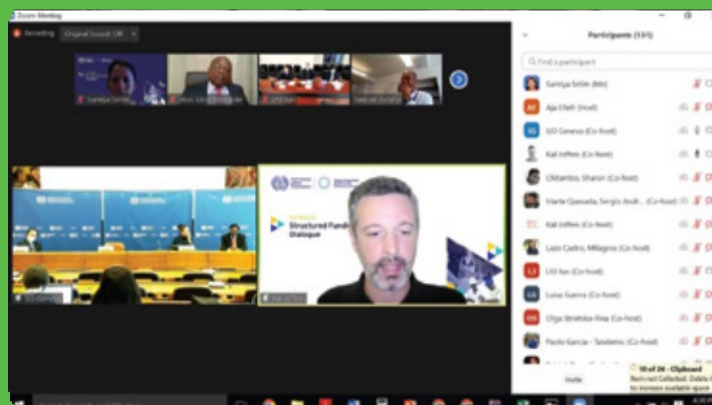
Dr. Irfanullah virtually spoke at the panel discussion on Locally-led Adaptation organized by Sajida Foundation under Adaptation and Agriculture theme of Action Hub Events at the COP27 (Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt) on 12 November 2022. He gave a presentation on Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in Bangladesh: From resilience to prosperity at a webinar titled Nature Based Solutions for Sustainable Deltas as a part of a seminar series organized by Living Delta’s Hub, UK on 8 November 2022. He also presented a paper titled What do Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) mean for small-scale fisheries? at the V2V Global Partnership’s (University of Waterloo, Canada) thematic webinar series on 26 August 2022.

Dr. Irfanullah virtually spoke on Mainstreaming Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in South Asia: Examples and Lessons from the Region and was a panelist on a virtual discussion on ‘Making NbS a reality in Nepalese Cities: Challenges and Opportunities’ in late August 2022. Both events were organized under the ‘Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation: Building Resilience for Municipalities’ training programme for Municipal Associations of Nepal (MUAN), organized by Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (HIS), the Netherlands.

CSD speaks at an international event on ILO Structured Funding Dialogue for Skills Development and Lifelong Learning

Dr. Samiya A. Selim attended as the speaker for the thematic session – Skills for Just Transition to Environmental Sustainability on 28 March 2022. She mentioned about CSD work on greening seven TVET institutes and the need for further upscaling of skills to meet green growth demands and also recognition of green skills in the labor market.

More visuals of the event can be found [here](#).



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



CES organizes a MOOC Workshop at 4 Universities

A series of MOOC workshops were conducted in collaboration with several universities, emphasizing diversity, tolerance, and pluralism. ULAB partnered with AIUB, IUB, BRACU, DU, and NSU. In the first workshop at NSU, titled "Ethical Governance in Public Life" held on Sunday, April 24, 2022 (11 am–1 pm), the event featured Ahsan Adelur Rahman, MP, as the Chief Guest, with Dr. M. Emdadul Haq and Associate Professor Sajid Amit as speakers. The event aligned with SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Similarly, subsequent workshops at the International University of Bangladesh, BRAC University, the University of Dhaka, and the American International University, Bangladesh, focused on diversity and tolerance, contributing to SDG 5 and SDG 10.



The press release can be accessed [here](#). All photos of the first workshop can be accessed [here](#). Selected photos of the first workshop can be accessed [here](#). All photos of the second workshop can be accessed [here](#). Selected photos of the second workshop can be accessed [here](#). Selected photos of the fourth workshop can be accessed [here](#). Selected photos of the fifth workshop can be accessed [here](#).

CSD organizes a session on Human Dimensions Working Group (HDWG): Making our Science more inclusive and impactful

On the 2nd day of the 5th CSD Annual Conference on Sustainable Development, an international workshop organized by the Human Dimensions Working Group, IMBER took place. The aim of the workshop was to co-develop and shape a focus on how to best support local science and stakeholders to be better seen, and better integrated.



The session has brought together knowledge producers (essentially scientists working at the global level) and Bangladeshi stakeholders such as NGOs, Local Government, community leaders, and local scientists to address how do we make global and local science and knowledge more impactful, so that different stakeholders working on these issues can be part of the discussion and can have a holistic approach on how we address these dynamics.

The diverse stakeholders highlighted different points and came up with different ideas and opinions on how to make them an integral part of those national/regional/international research projects of direct relevance of their daily life and livelihood.

More information on the event can be found [here](#).

DEH organizes a Talk with Dr. Gregory Tweedie on “Socially Just Educational Measurement”

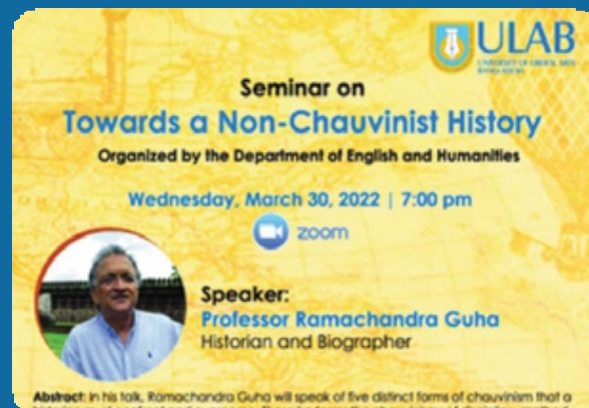
On July 25, 2022, the Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) held a workshop titled “Socially Just Educational Measurement: Are Educational Language Tests Measuring Up?” conducted by Dr. M. Gregory Tweedie,

Associate Professor of Language and Literacy, Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary, Canada. Dr. Tweedie has a PhD in Education (with a focus on Applied Linguistics), and his research focuses on the assessment and pedagogy of English as an international language for professional communication.



DEH organizes a seminar titled: Towards a Non-Chauvinist History

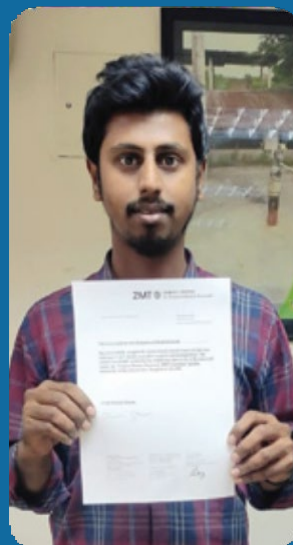
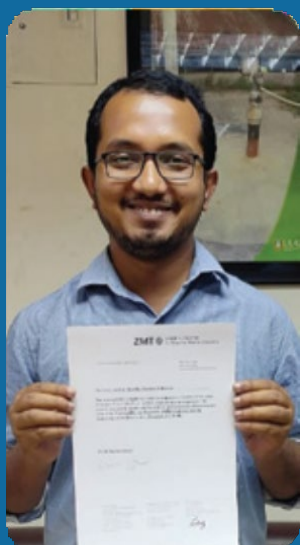
The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a seminar on March 30, 2022, with renowned historian, social thinker, and biographer, Professor Ramachandra Guha. The seminar, "Towards a Non-Chauvinist History," focused on the five distinct forms of chauvinism. Professor Guha's talk contributed to understanding of non-chauvinist history. Professor focused on identifying five kinds of chauvinism that historians must be wary of in chronicling historical events: the chauvinism of discipline, the chauvinism of method, the chauvinism of identity, the chauvinism of ideology, and the chauvinism of nation. At the end of his talk, Professor Guha introduced a sixth chauvinism, the chauvinism of ego or personal vanity. The talk contributed to discussions about ways to achieve peace and justice in the world.



CSD Staff members Completed an International Short Course on Conflict Analysis and Management

Three Research Assistants of CSD-ULAB, Marzan Jui, Mohammad Budrudzaman, and Mashiur Rahaman completed and received the certificates of a short International Course (5 full days 7-11 February 2022) on conflict analysis and management. The course was jointly conducted by the staff of the University of Bremen, Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT), Germany; and the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB).

The link to the event can be found [here](#).



CQS organizes an event titled “Fact-Checking in Bangladesh: Prospects and Challenges”

The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a seminar on March 30, 2022, with renowned historian, social thinker, and biographer, Professor Ramachandra Guha. The seminar, “Towards a Non-Chauvinist History,” focused on the five distinct forms of chauvinism. Professor Guha’s talk contributed to understanding of non-chauvinist history. Professor focused on identifying five kinds of chauvinism that historians must be wary of in chronicling historical events: the chauvinism of discipline, the chauvinism of method, the chauvinism of identity, the chauvinism of ideology, and the chauvinism of nation. At the end of his talk, Professor Guha introduced a sixth chauvinism, the chauvinism of ego or personal vanity. The talk contributed to discussions about ways to achieve peace and justice in the world.



The link to the activity can be found [here](#)

CQS organizes a Launching of the Study Report on “Media Framing of Rohingya Refugees in Selected National and Local Newspapers of Bangladesh”

The study report on “Media Framing of Rohingya Refugees in Selected National and Local Newspapers of Bangladesh” was launched in Dhaka on August 20, 2022. The study findings indicate that the media should adopt a more humane stance and abstain from even the faintest indication of victim-blaming or stereotyping to preserve a sustainable refugee-host ecology. The study was led by Prof. Dr. Sumon Rahman, the Director of the Center for Critical and Qualitative Studies (CQS), ULAB. During the launch, Professor Dr. Sumon insisted that “Media framing is an important tool. It helps to understand the opinion of people on a particular issue in the coming future.” The CQS team examined how the Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh was framed in the media and found trends, insights, and biases. The study findings were utilized in developing suggestions for journalists on how to cover these topics. The study report was officially launched by the German ambassador to Bangladesh, Achim Tröster. Faruq Faisal, South Asia Director of ARTICLE 19, Rumky Farhana, Senior Program Officer of ARTICLE 19, Andrea Marshall, Program Director of DW Akademie, and the CQS team were present at the event.



The link to the activity can be found [here](#)

CQS organizes a Discussion session on ‘Anti-rumor and combating misinformation’

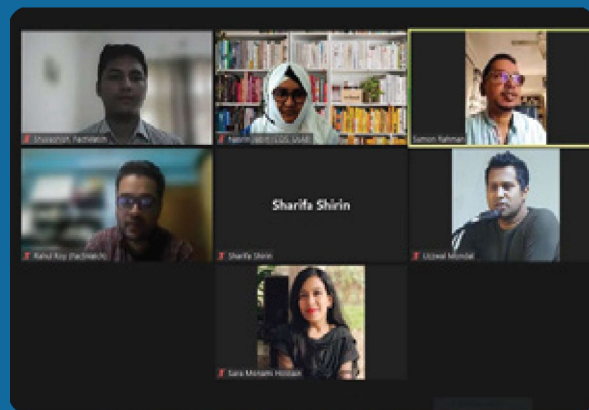
Professor Din M. Sumon Rahman, the Director of the Center for Critical and Qualitative Studies, joined in a discussion session on ‘Anti-rumor and combating misinformation’ organized by Bangladesh Betar. This discussion took place on April 18, 2022. He has highlighted how to combat rumor and spread of misinformation in social media. By educating the public about how to identify and verify reliable sources of information, he believes that individuals can play an active role in stopping the spread of rumors and misinformation. Additionally, he emphasized the importance of promoting transparency and accountability among media organizations and social media platforms to ensure accurate and appropriate dissemination of information.



CQS organizes a Workshop on developing curriculums on MIL and fact-checking

Center for Critical and Qualitative Studies (CQS) , ULAB organized a workshop on developing curriculums on MIL and fact-checking on November 25-26, 2022. Its objective was to develop a curriculum on Media and Information Literacy programs that provide fact-checking skills by making use of fact-checkers expertise, enhanced public standing, and funds . Media and Information Literacy (MIL) is defined primarily by its aims, which focus on empowering citizens to access, analyze, create, and reflect on media in order to claim their rights to free information and expression. This workshop aimed to align closely with the work of fact-checkers and operate training programs that allow them to share the techniques, knowledge, and experiences of their day-to-day work with others.

The link to the activity can be found [here](#)



to share the techniques, knowledge, and experiences of their day-to-day work with others.

CQS organizes a FactWatch Hosts Workshop on the Basics of Fact-checking and Combating Misinformation

"Fact-Checking Basics: A Beginner's Workshop on Combating Misinformation" was a hands-on training program established by FactWatch with the intent to empower young students and journalists with basic fact-checking skills. Funded by the Asia Foundation, the training program involved a series of six workshops conducted by the FactWatch team. The first workshop of this series took place on August 11, 2022, at the ULAB Research Building.



This full-day workshop was divided into four modules which were designed to provide a basic understanding of the pattern of misinformation and fact-checking in digital cyberspace . In this interactive workshop, the participants learned from highly knowledgeable experts in media and information literacy and professional fact-checkers . The workshop provided an integrated learning environment for capacity building and skill development, while offering the participants the opportunity to network with both professional journalists and interested fact-checker.

The link to the event can be found [here](#).

CQS organizes a Fact-Checking Basics: A Beginner's Workshop to Combating Misinformation

FactWatch organized the hands-on training course "Fact-Checking Basics: A Beginner's Workshop on Combating Misinformation" with the aim of equipping young students and journalists with fundamental fact-checking skills in August 2022. The training program, funded by the Asia Foundation, entails a series of six workshop sessions led by the FactWatch team. This all-day program consists of four modules that were created to give students and journalists a fundamental grasp of the pattern of disinformation and fact-checking in digital cyberspace . Learning outcomes of these training program were: i) Understanding of fact-checking, misinformation, and disinformation; ii) Usage of tools for verification and fact-checking; iii) Image and video checking; iv) Searching, monitoring, and analyzing social media platforms; and v) Digital security and website management.

The link to the Workshop can be found [here](#).





DEH Organizes Multicultural Conclave 2022: “A Dialogic ImagiNation of Bangladesh: Literary-Linguistic-Cultural Representations, Non-representations and Misrepresentations”

The Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) sought to raise enquiries about reading and rereading how Bangladesh is imagined in manifestations of the public consciousness—in literary texts, films, and other popular media in its 2022 Multicultural Conclave, focusing on ‘A Dialogic ImagiNation of Bangladesh: Literary–Linguistic–Cultural Representations, Non–representations and Misrepresentations’.

The keynote and plenary sessions explored the ideas of nation, nationalism, and nationhood; on how specific spaces and time periods shape the characters portrayed in narratives on Bangladesh; and how these local and global representations, in turn, shape relationships between this nation and those living in it. The Conclave brought together representatives from all over the world who are all committed to the common goal of inclusivity.

The link to the Workshop can be found [here](#).

FactWatch participated in ‘Global Fact 9’ summit at Norway

The factWatch team of ULAB participated in the world’s largest and most impactful fact-checking summit ‘Global Fact 9’ hosted by Poynter’s International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN) in Oslo, Norway. The founder and editor of FactWatch, Prof Dr Sumon Rahman participated in the summit in person, while fact-checkers Apon Das, Rahul Roy, and Shuvashish Das Ray Dip participated virtually. The summit returned to the in-person stage after two years of the virtual convention in June 2022 at the Oslo Metropolitan University’s City Center Campus. During the four-day summit, partners in the fight against misinformation, including signatories of the IFCN from more than 60 nations, worked together to exchange best practices and incite fruitful

discussion. FactWatch is one of the signatories of IFCN from South Asia. Prof Sumon and his team have been raising awareness about misinformation, disinformation, fake news, and rumors in Bangladesh since 2017 through FactWatch.

At the ‘Global Fact 9’ summit, Prof Sumon and other participant fact-checkers from the signatories were invited by the mayor of Oslo to City Hall, Oslo. At the mayor’s reception, the FactWatch team was well recognized and praised for their role in promoting Media Information Literacy (MIL) in Bangladesh and fighting misinformation.

The link to the activity can be found [here](#)

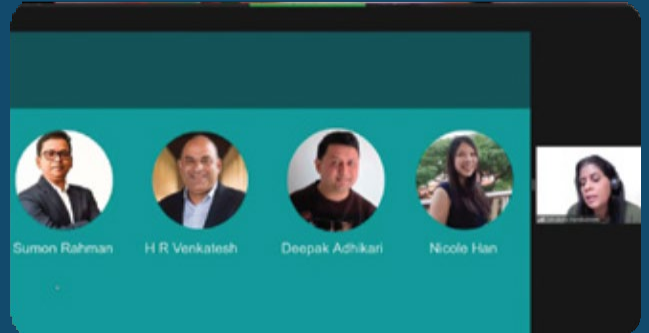


Webinar on ‘Fact Checking and News Literacy in the Age of Disinformation’

The Centre for Critical and Qualitative Studies (CQS) has joined the webinar, “Future of Journalism in South Asia Series–Fact Checking and News Literacy in the Age of Disinformation” on October 20, 2022. As a part of the Future of Journalism in South Asia series, a collaboration between the Center for Investigative Reporting Sri Lanka, and Media Unlimited, Pakistan. The initiative was supported by the Meta Journalism Project and was attended by 73 journalists from the four South Asian countries: Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and

Nepal. Panelists for this webinar included Dr. Sumon Rahman, Editor FactWatch from Bangladesh, H.R. Venkatesh, Director Training & Research, BOOM FactCheck from India, Deepak Adhikari, Editor Nepal Check from Nepal and Nicole Han, Strategic Partner Development, Integrity Programs and Partnerships, APAC. The session was moderated by Dilrukshi Handunnetti, Executive Director, Center for Investigative Reporting Sri Lanka.

This webinar shined lights on a detail about CIR and its journey so far. Representatives from Meta talked about Meta's Journalist Safety Hub and encouraged participants to explore Meta's Human Rights Report that was launched last year. This was followed by a very vibrant Q&A session.



CQS participates in a conference titled Bridging Connections: ULAB participates in national conference hosted in Vietnam

As a part of the HARMONY program funded by ERASMUS, Professor Din M. Sumon Rahman, the director of Center for Critical & Qualitative Studies (CQS) participated in a national conference hosted by The University of Danang, Vietnam from 3rd to 4th November 2022. This project presents an exciting opportunity for ULAB students to participate in an upcoming Digital Storytelling Contest. Details regarding this contest were finalized during this national conference in Vietnam, and soon ULAB students have displayed their prowess in creating a compelling visual narrative in presenting their digital stories. The top three digital stories earned their creators the chance to experience a Boot Camp hosted by the Varna University of Management in Bulgaria. It has created a bridge between ULAB and the partner universities and allows the students to experience the internationalization of education. ULAB has also received an ERASMUS grant of \$30,000 to develop a FRIENDS Teahouse at the ULAB Campus. The FRIENDS Teahouse is to serve both domestic and international ULAB students as per their requirements. Now it is a communicative space for them to develop a multicultural and diverse understanding of education and participate in many different activities.



More information on the event can be found [here](#).

CQS organizes a debate youth forum in Collaboration with MSJ, ULAB, DW Akademie, Article 19 supported by European Union

ARTICLE 19 organized a debate forum titled 'Our Voice Matters' to be held on Saturday, 15 July 2023. This event was in collaboration with DW Akademie and under the project- "Informed Opinion for Better Decisions: Empowering Youth Voices," which is funded by the European Union. Fifteen highly-skilled youth facilitators conducted the day-long forum, which included sessions on fact-checking and disinformation, interactive brainstorming and dialogue on the most important issues affecting the youth and the country. The participating students discussed in groups a wide gamut of topics including traffic jams, pollution, mental health, animal welfare, gender-based discrimination, economic turmoil, politics, and democracy.



Student Field Visit organized by USAID

USAID Bangladesh hosted students from University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) and collaborated with six talented journalists representing various media outlets. Together they embarked on a journey through Jashore and Khulna to explore multiple USAID projects. Throughout the trip, USAID Bangladesh Deputy Mission Director, Randy Ali, shared his incredible experiences with the students. They met local farmers to see the transformative impact of USAID investments on increasing their yields and improving livelihoods for their families.



ULAB-IAMCR Lecture on “Evidence-based Multimedia Campaign: UNICEF Experience”

Ms. Tania Sultana, SBC Specialist, UNICEF Bangladesh spoke as the keynote speaker to the ULAB students during Summer 2023 ULAB-IAMCR Lecture on “Evidence-based Multimedia Campaign: UNICEF Experience.” The lecture was held on Friday, August 18, 2023. The program was jointly organized by the Dept. of Masters in Communication, ULAB, and IAMCR, Bangladesh. Insights into the campaign can be found [here](#).



DEH organizes a ULAB Literary Salon

The Literary Salon is an initiative of the Department of English and Humanities, ULAB. The Lit Salon is a first of its kind literary platform in Dhaka that brings together writers, readers, publishers and intellectuals from Bangladesh and different corners of South Asia in an informal, engaging setting to discuss significant issues. Students and faculty members gain insight into local and global issues that raise awareness and allow them to engage critically with the speakers invited. In 2022, six episodes of the Lit Salon were held. Topics ranged from literature to publishing to the Partition to freedom of expression.



DEH hosts the Inter-University Student Conference and Cultural Competition

The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) held the 8th Inter-University Student Conference and Cultural Competition on October 20-21, 2022. The 2022 Inter-University Student Conference and Cultural Competition explored different facets of conflict and avenues for conflict resolution within topics in literature, language, linguistics, cultural studies, communication studies, translation studies, digital humanities.

17 public and private universities competed this year in the academic and cultural segments of the conference. The conference is an annual event that brings students from different universities together to compete in academic and cultural presentations in a congenial environment. ULAB is the only university in Bangladesh that has been consistently organizing such a conference where students conduct research on particular themes, usually marking specific literary anniversaries and events of global significance, and present their ideas before an independent panel of judges.

More information on the event can be found [here](#).



DEH organizes the 10th BELTA International Conference

The Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) cohosted the 10th BELTA International Conference in Bangladesh, titled “Sustainable Approaches to English Language Education in a Changing World,” with BELTA at the ULAB premises on November 18–19, 2022. The keynote speaker for the Conference was Dr. Richard Smith, Professor of ELT and Applied Linguistics, University of Warwick, UK. In his keynote address, Dr. Richard Smith spoke about the challenges faced by educators during and after the pandemic. He also highlighted the importance of sustainable practices in English language education in the Global South.



The Chief Guest at the Conference, Professor Imran Rahman, Vice Chancellor, ULAB, lauded the organizers for the timely conference. The BELTA President and Conference Co-Chair, Dr. Rubina Khan, stressed on the need to adapt to the changing times and incorporate issues of equity, diversity, and social justice in education. The Head of the Department of English and Humanities, Dr. Arifa Rahman, who is also an Advisor to BELTA and Conference Co-Chair, expressed her hope that participants would find networking opportunities and benefit from the insights and experiences shared by the presenters and extended her gratitude to the American Center, US Embassy for their support.

The conference was graced with over a hundred local and international presenters who presented their research work at this two-day Conference.

More information on the event can be found [here](#).

CES Partnership Program: MOOC Workshop at 5 Universities

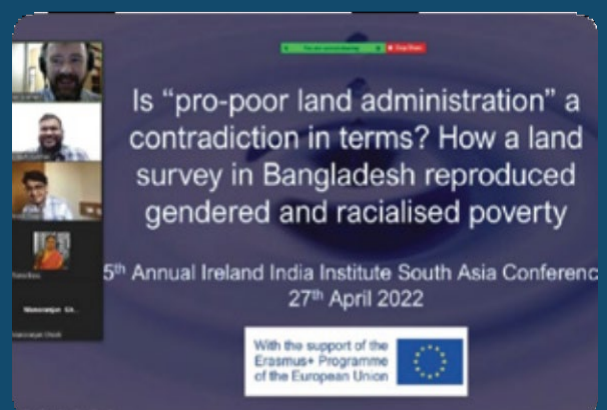
A series of MOOC workshops were conducted in collaboration with several universities, emphasizing diversity, tolerance, and pluralism. ULAB partnered with AIUB, IUB, BRACU, DU, and NSU. In the first workshop at NSU, titled “Ethical Governance in Public Life” held on Sunday, April 24, 2022 (11 am–1 pm), the event featured Ahsan Adelur Rahman, MP, as the Chief Guest, with Dr. M. Emdadul Haq and Associate Professor Sajid Amit as speakers. The event aligned with SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Similarly, subsequent workshops at the International University of Bangladesh, BRAC University, the University of Dhaka, and the American International University, Bangladesh, focused on diversity and tolerance, contributing to SDG 5 and SDG 10.



The press release can be accessed [here](#). All photos of the first workshop can be accessed [here](#). Selected photos of the first workshop can be accessed [here](#). All photos of the second workshop can be accessed [here](#). Selected photos of the second workshop can be accessed [here](#). Selected photos of the fourth workshop can be accessed [here](#). Selected photos of the fifth workshop can be accessed [here](#).

CSD presented the findings on Politics and Power in Land Administration (PPLA) at an International Conference

On 27 April 2022, Dr. Oliver Scanlan, Research Fellow at the Center for Sustainable Development at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, presented the findings of CSD’s PPLA project at a major international conference. The event, entitled “Fifth Annual South Asia Conference”, was organized by Dublin City University’s Ireland–India Institute, comprising dozens of individual panels with hundreds of participants from around the world.



Speaking on behalf of co-authors, Dr. Scanlan emphasized PEOPLE’s key findings concerning the adverse gendered and racialized impacts of land digitalisation and formalization interventions. The panel, entitled “Dimensions of socio-economic inequalities’ ‘ also included presentations from various Indian colleagues concerning inequality and various forms of exclusion in areas as diverse as inner-city Delhi and north Bengal. The Panel was chaired by Dr. Vikash Vaibhav, from the Initiative for What Works to Advance Women

and Girls in the Economy, based in New Delhi.

In the Q and A session, the linked issues of patrilocal residence and village exogamy were the key themes. These were summed up by Dr. Vaibhav in the common social idea across the northern subcontinent that “a woman cannot take the land with her” when she gets married. While these norms remain formidable obstacles to the equitable realization of women’s rights to property, absentee landowners continue to be a prominent aspect of agrarian relations in South Asia, and so the problem should not be insurmountable. The question invited our focus to the issue of how to ensure secure control of land on the part of women who may not live nearby

The Fb post can be found in this [link](#)

ULAB signs an MOU with Banhishikha

On 18 April 2022, CSD was delighted to announce a new partnership for the PPLA project. The Bangladeshi feminist organization Banhishikha will be working with us to convene a national level roundtable discussion in response to PPLA’s research findings. The roundtable event will address both ongoing de jure and de facto forms of gendered exclusion from equitable rights to land in Bangladesh, links between the two and creative means of addressing them. The objective will be to establish a set of realistic and grounded set of advocacy recommendations, derived substantively from decades of existing work on these issues by Bangladeshi scholars, legal experts and practitioners, that can then be the basis for discussions at a second international event.

The link to the MOU with Banhishikha event press release can be found in [here](#).



ULAB signs an MOU with Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (ZMT)

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) and the Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (ZMT), Bremen, Germany have renewed their 5 year-long partnerships and signed an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) to develop cooperative relations on basis of established contacts and mutual understandings, especially to develop joint academic activities and to promote scientific exchange through mutual assistance in the areas of marine science education and research

The link to the MOU with Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (ZMT) event press release can be found in [here](#).



CSD organizes a Just Transition stakeholder consultation in Bangladesh

On 10 March 2022, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh organized an interactive stakeholder consultation on Just Transition in Bangladesh where Dr. Rumana Sultana, Dr. Pinki Shah, and Dr. Minhaz Uddin Ahmed presented a review paper that summarizes the meaning and implications of Just Transition in Bangladesh.

The ULAB is the country partner in Climate Strategies UK project on “Incorporating just transition strategies into climate policies of developing and least developed countries”. The aim of the project is to enable the introduction of Just Transition Strategies in developing countries, climate plans that align with their development goals. The project is funded by the European Climate Foundation.

The ‘2022 Appreciation Award’ of the Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP), USA

Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah, Visiting Research Fellow at ULAB was awarded the 2022 Appreciation Award by the Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP) for his contributions to the Society as well as to the field of academic communication. Dr. Irfanullah, a Chef of The Scholarly Kitchen blog of the SSP, regularly writes articles on scholarly communication, research impact, sustainable development, the SDGs, climate action, and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA).

The link can be found in [here](#).

CSD Organizes and Facilitates an International Event on Research Communication

Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah was a co-organiser of a virtual session on 'Inspiring Global Collaboration' organized at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP) in Chicago, USA, in the first week of June 2022. The panelists of this session were scholarly publishing experts from Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Dr. Irfanullah was a co-facilitator of a workshop on 'Global Access to Publication' at the 'Researcher to Reader Conference 2022', London, UK. He was also on the advisory panel of this conference, which was organized in a hybrid mode in late February 2022.

Dr. Irfanullah was a judge of the oral and poster sessions on Life Sciences and Social Sciences at the International Colloquium on Authentic Scientific Publications. This hybrid event was organized by the National Young Academy of Bangladesh (NYAB), Dhaka, Bangladesh on 14 and 15 July 2022.

The link for the event on Organizing and Facilitating International Event on Research Communication of Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah can be found in [here](#).

ULAB signs an MOU with Garbageman

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) signed an MOU with Garbageman, in August 2022. Garbageman is a start-up company providing services on circular waste management. As per the agreement Garbageman provided a waste audit of the waste produced at the ULAB. Garbageman additionally provided two training sessions on waste segregation to ULAB faculty, students, admin staff, and all support staff at the ULAB.

The link to the MOU with Garbageman press release can be found in [here](#).

ULAB signs an MOU with Bangladesh Petrochemical Company Limited (BPCL)

The MOU signed with BPCL in 2019 has been restarted in 2022. As per the agreement BPCL will collect all PET bottles from ULAB to recycle them back into new PET bottles. As part of the agreement students can collaborate and work with BPCL on research projects, conferences and training programs provided by BPCL.

The link to the MOU with Bangladesh Petrochemical Company Limited (BPCL) event press release can be found in [here](#).

ULAB signs an MOU with Bashundhara Paper Mills Limited (BPML)

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) signed an MOU with BPML. As per the agreement BPML collects all waste paper produced at ULAB, and uses it for making pulp and turning them into paper for producing new paper and paper materials.

The link to the MOU with Bashundhara Paper Mills Limited (BPML) event press release can be found in [here](#).

ULAB signs an MoU with Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB)

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) signed an MoU with Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB) for Research Partnership, Knowledge and Resource sharing, Capacity Development, Internship, Advocacy, Networking, and Joint Project and Technology Development related to Climate Change and Sustainable Development.

CCDB Climate Centre will also arrange Exposure visits and Talent showcases for the students of ULAB.

In the signing program Vice Chancellor of ULAB Prof. Imran Rahman, Executive Director of CCDB Juliate Keya Malakar, Head of Climate Change Program of CCDB Mr. Foelullah Talukder, Dean of School of Science and Engineering Professor M. Mofazzal Hossain, Visiting Research Fellow, Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah, Acting coordinator of CCDB Climate Centre Ashrafuzzaman Khan, Adaptation Manager of CCDB Climate Centre Md. Kamal Hossain, Associate Professor Mirza Rasheduzzaman, and Lecturer Tahura Farbin were present.



More insights can be accessed [here](#).

Study Visits to Lithuania and Spain: Innovating International Collaborations

Professor Din M. Sumon Rahman, the Director of the Center for Critical and Qualitative Studies, and Arifa Ghani Rahman, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of English and Humanities, represented ULAB in a study visit to Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania. They were later joined by Professor Imran Rahman, the Vice-Chancellor, who led the ULAB delegation on the study visit to the University of Zaragoza, Spain.

The study visits took place from September 5 to September 15, 2022. These study visits represent an important milestone in ULAB's participation in the HARMONY project, with the signing of MoUs with the University of Zaragoza, Spain, and Quang Binh University, Vietnam, paving the way for international collaboration in research and project development.

During the study visit to Spain, Professor Din M. Sumon Rahman presented ULAB's progress in internationalization and the implementation of the "FRIENDS Teahouses" concept. One of the key deliverables discussed during the study visit was the upcoming workshops on International Credit Mobility (ICM) management. The implementation of ICM with partner universities would present an immense opportunity for both domestic and international students. Furthermore, it also included the development of the International Relations Office (IRO) and its hierarchical status in the ULAB ecosystem.

The implementation of an IRO has allowed for partnerships with various international universities. The HARMONY project facilitated ULAB in partnering with ten other Asian and European universities to promote educational and academic excellence through study visits, student exchanges, joint research, lectures, and training sessions.

More information can be found [here](#).



ULAB signs an MoU with Sajida Foundation

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) had the pleasure of signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SAJIDA Foundation. This collaboration represents the commencement of an exciting journey dedicated to fostering cooperative efforts in sustainable development, climate change, and health. Through this partnership, both organizations aim to harness their expertise, resources, and networks to undertake impactful research, develop innovative solutions, and promote sustainable practices.

The MOU was signed by Ms. Zahida Fizza Kabir, Chief Executive Officer of SAJIDA Foundation, and Professor Imran Rahman, Vice Chancellor of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, on behalf of their respective organizations.





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